

Wennerstrom's Washington Stay

Spy for Reds Says CIA Paid \$2000

By George Lardner Jr.
Washington Post Staff Writer

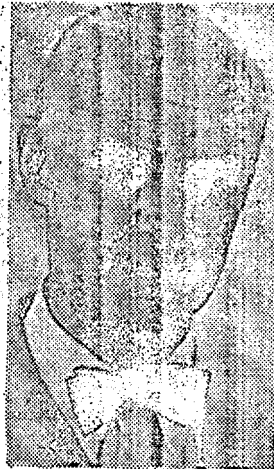
Swedish Col. Stig Wennerstrom said he earned \$2000 on errands for the Central Intelligence Agency while he was in Washington spying for the Russians.

Now serving a life term in Sweden for his pro-Soviet espionage, Wennerstrom was enlisted by the CIA to spirit packages out of the Soviet Embassy here, according to an article in the current issue of the New Yorker magazine.

He said he did it twice and was paid \$1000 a trip, the article states. The account seems largely based on Swedish interrogation records.

Wennerstrom served as Sweden's air attache here from 1952 to 1957. He had already been enlisted by Soviet intelligence agents; but before that, Wennerstrom had carried out espionage assignments for the United States as Swedish air attache in Moscow.

After his arrival in Washington, Wennerstrom told his interrogators, he ran into a CIA man at a Pentagon lunch



STIG WENNERSTROM
... double agent

who later met with him privately.

"He explained that there was material in the Soviet Embassy that had to be gotten out of there," Wennerstrom said.

out about my activity," the Swedish spy recalled. He said he agreed to attend Soviet functions regularly and keep

on the lookout "for a Russian-speaking contact who would make himself known in an information from unnamed contacts

"My reaction was one of relief because it was not as feared—that they had found other bribery.

exchange of passwords . . . " Wennerstrom was arrested in Sweden in 1963 and tried

The small packages he picked up from the contact were to be passed onto a CIA agent later.

In Washington, Wennerstrom's tips to hard-working spies would include cultivating the ladies and paying your parking tickets.

Wennerstrom also kept money handy for "bribing people in defense plants." He found it "a simple matter to buy information," the article

relates. He told his interrogators he paid \$1000 for information from unnamed contacts in the electronics industry and was also successful in another bribery.

Wennerstrom was arrested in Sweden in 1963 and tried the next year.

While here, he was highly successful in getting detailed plans of the Bomarc and HM-55 missiles, among other information, the article states.

He returned to Sweden "with an American decoration, the Order of the Legion of Merit, which had been awarded to him in recognition of his services as a diplomat friendly to the American cause."